GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:253
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2002
MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of Medical Council of India;

(b) the total members of the council as on date, both nominated and elected, separately;

(c) the number of vacancies of members in MCI as on date;

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to fill up the same;

(e) whether the Government propose to wind up the council to economise Government expenditure and take the functions of MCI directly under their own hand, and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR)

(a)to(f) A statement is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 253 FOR 20.3.2002

1. Functions of the Medical Council of India:

Ãº Maintenance of uniform standards of medical education - both at the Undergraduate and Postgraduate levels.

Ãº Conducting inspections/visits of medical colleges for sending recommendations to the Central Government forgrant of permission under the provisions of section 10A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, to start medical colleges for MBBS course; starting of new postgraduate courses; and increase of seats.

Ãº Sending recommendations to the Central Government forrecognition or de-recognition of the medical qualifications offered by the medical institutions within and outside the country.

Ãº Maintenance of Indian Medical Register andgrant of provisional/permanent registration to persons who have obtained recognized medical qualifications.

Ãº Issue of good standing certificates to registered medical graduates.

2. Membership and Vacancies in the Medical Council of India as on date:

Category of Members	Total Membership	Members in position	Vacant
State Government nominees	28	26	02

Central Government nominees	08	08	Nil
Registered Medical Graduates i the States (elected)	17	06	11
University Representatives (elected)	59	32	27
Representatives of persons with Licentiate medical qualification (elected)	07	Nil	07
Total	119	72	47

3. Reasons for the vacancies and the action taken to fill up the same: The Central Government in consultation with the State Governments, appoints the Returning Officers to conduct election of the representative of the Registered Medical Graduates in the States. The Central Government also appoints the Returning Officer to conduct the election to the seven seats in the Council for persons with licentiate medical qualifications. The Registrars of the Universities are requested by the Central Government to conduct the election of the representatives of the Universities.

4. For nominating the State Government representatives, the Central Government requests each State Government to forward the names of their nominees.

5. These authorities are being repeatedly requested by the Central Government and the Medical Council of India to expedite the election and to forward the names of their representatives. On its own, the Central Government is not in a position to fill up the vacancies unless it receives the names of the persons elected for the membership of the Council/the State Governments forward the names of their nominees.

6. The vacancies in the Council are remaining unfilled mainly on account of the following reasons:

Ãº The vacancies of the nominees of the State Governments in the Council persist because the State Government concerned have not forwarded the names of their nominees to the Central Government.

Ãº The representatives of the Universities have to be elected from amongst the members of the medical faculty of the University by the Senate or Court of the University in its meeting. Some of the Universities have not been able to elect their representatives for years due to inordinate delay in reconstituting the senate. In some cases, the senate has not met for a long time.

Ãº In the case of election of representatives of the Registered Medical Graduates in the States, some of the Returning Officers have not conducted the election for a long time due to non-availability of up-to-date voters list and election disputes.

Ãº The Returning Officer appointed to conduct election for the seven seats in the Council for persons with licentiate medical qualifications have not been able to conduct the election for a long time mainly because some of the State Medical Councils have not been able to provide the up-to date list of voters.

7. The Medical Council of India has been set up by an Act of the Parliament and performs various statutory functions as per the

provisions of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. There is no proposal withthe Central Government to wind up the Medical Council of India and take over its functions.